

# Holland.

I

116planc34

"Let us keep my head above water."

The name of the provinces of Holland is a lion, swimming, with the above motto: - a device which might fitly be applied to the whole country, a large part of which is a delta, formed by the mud deposited by the Rhine, the Meuse, & the Scheldt; exposed & driven inwards by the sea.

Holland, in many ways, the most wonderful country under the sun. Here, houses are built upon the sand, & do stand, not only houses but cities, - Amsterdam & Rotterdam have no other foundation. We speak with contempt of things held together by straws; yet ~~straw~~ reeds & straw wisps are used to bind the coast of Holland for many miles. Here, the laws of nature seem to be reversed; the sea & the rivers are higher than the land; the ships float above the chimneys of the houses; the frog amongst the rushes looks down upon the swallows on the house-top.

The very rivers do not choose their own channels but are compelled to pass through canals. Not a stone or a pebble is to be found in the bed; and there are no hills save such as are raised by the winds.

Even the wind is reduced to servitude here. Surely so flat & unsheltered a land must be at the mercy of every wind that blows.

Quite the contrary, no breath

8-25  
1

Lesson VIII Parallel Lines.

It is very important to know the distance of a place from the equator, because climate, that is, whether a place is hot or cold, has four seasons or not, depends chiefly upon how far it is from the equator.

Distance from the equator is called Latitude. Places north of that line are in north latitude; those south of it are in south latitude.

But it is not enough to know that a place is in north latitude. If you wish to know its climate, and therefore, what sort of animals live in it, and what <sup>plants</sup> grow there, you must know just how far it is from the equator.

That people may know this, other imaginary lines are thought of going round the earth in the same direction as the equator and parallel with it. The rails upon which an engine or a <sup>railway</sup> tramway <sup>carriage</sup> run are parallel; that is, they both run in the same direction, and are always at the same distance from one another.

These imaginary lines cross the world, at equal distances from the equator and from each other, are called parallels of latitude, and are marked in pictures of the world, or of any part of it.

If you know which parallel a place is upon you know its distance from the equator, and can judge how hot or how cold it is.

But

fall straight down upon the equator, and would slope so much to reach us that we should get very little heat. You know it is much warmer in front of a kitchen fire where the heat comes out straight, than it is in a corner which only slanting rays of heat can reach. ~~But~~

But the world does not travel with her axis upright: it is always a sloping line, sloping not towards the sun, but always in the same direction, towards the path which the earth travels on. Of course this is no real path, merely a way through space. But imagine it a real road for a moment and you can think of the earth bowling along with her axis sloping towards the road; just as if you could walk with your body from your head down, all sloping forwards.

Part II.

That is how the earth moves, never turning or changing her position in the least: but with her north pole always pointing towards the pole star in the heavens.

Hold a doll sloping in this way towards a table on which a candle is standing; then carry the doll steadily round the candle never changing <sup>its</sup> position, but keeping <sup>it</sup> always sloping a little towards the table from <sup>the</sup> head to <sup>the</sup> feet. At one time, the candle shines straight on the middle of the doll and the slanting rays reach the head and the feet; then moves the doll round, always in the same position, and you will find the feet pointing to the candle and the head turned a little away; <sup>it is</sup> still



that have offended in this rebellion, as well by the  
hanging them upon trees, as by the quartering of them,  
the setting of their hearts & quarters in every town. . .  
as they may be a fearful spectacle to all others  
hereafter that would practice any like matter, which  
we require you to do without pity or respect according  
to our former letters".

The insurgents made an attack upon Carlisle & also  
upon Hull; they were unsuccessful in both &  
their leaders were taken prisoners. At Elytown,  
Lower Hill, Smithfield, Lincoln, Hull, the leaders  
were beheaded. Robert Aske, that impudent  
Lancaster Herald who offended the King by bending  
his knee to <sup>Aske</sup> ~~him~~, was executed together at York,  
while as to the common people, no doubt the  
King's 'pleasure' was very fully carried out.